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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the abstract of the specification as follows:

An ultrasonic puncture needle ~~is disclosed having according to the present invention~~  
~~comprises~~ a sheath for ~~being inserted~~ insertion into a treatment tool insertion channel of an  
ultrasonic endoscope, and a needle tube for insertion ~~being inserted~~ into tissue within the body  
cavity through the sheath. The needle tube ~~, which~~ includes multiple staggered-array doughnut-  
shaped recesses over a predetermined range on the surface of the tip portion ~~of the needle tube~~  
from the portion near the tip thereof.